

12 August 1969

MORNING MEETING ACTION ITEM

TO: DD/P
Legislative Counsel
SAVA

The Director questioned the DD/P on what coordination process was involved in the Chuyen/Green Beret affair. The DD/P and Carver offered explanations. Houston pointed to the implications of SWITCH-BACK. The Director made it clear that he understands the situation but noted that such details of our noninvolvement may not be helpful in the last analysis. The Director asked the DD/P to prepare a brief memorandum on the situation, to cable its contents to Dr. Kissinger, and to provide copies to Goodwin and Maury. Carver noted that he and Houston will be seeing General Wheeler and DOD Deputy General Counsel Niederlehner today at 5 p.m., and the Director asked that they do what they can to stop such comments as are coming out of the Nhatrang Special Forces Headquarters (see today's New York Times item by Terence Smith). The Director asked the DD/P to consider informing various European liaison services and agreed with the DD/P's view that selected Chiefs of Station be provided a backgrounder in the event they are questioned. The DD/P raised what response State should make in the event they are questioned regarding allegations of our involvement, and the Director concurred in State's position that the inquiries be referred to Defense. The Director asked that Maury brief Ed Braswell again, determine whether Senator Russell wishes a briefing, brief Congressman Rivers and Senators Thurmond and Mansfield, and determine what additional South Carolina congressmen it would be useful to see.

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cc: [unclear] [unclear]